

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
FOI/PA  
DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET  
FOI/PA# 1575130-000

Total Deleted Page(s) = 11

Page 23 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 24 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 25 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 31 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 32 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 33 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 41 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 42 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 43 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 44 ~ Duplicate;  
Page 56 ~ Duplicate;

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RECEIVED EMPLOYEE  
SECURITY SECTION

JUN 20 4 45 PM '61

FBI  
U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

RECEIVED EMPLOYEE  
SECURITY SECTION

MAR 15 3 46 PM '73

FBI  
U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

# REQUEST FOR REPORT OF LOYALTY DATA ON APPLICANTS AND APPOINTEES

THIS FORM TO BE USED ONLY FOR APPLICANTS AND APPOINTEES  
WHERE RECORD CHECKS AND INQUIRIES ARE CONDUCTED  
BY CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION  
(PART 1—EXECUTIVE ORDER 9835) **10450**

CASE SERIAL NO.  
(CSO use only)

TO: The Federal Bureau of Investigation, through the U. S. Civil Service Commission

The following information is furnished for identification purposes on the person named below. Kindly furnish a report on any loyalty information contained in your files. (The fingerprints of this person are attached.)

1. FULL NAME (Initials and  
abbreviations of full name  
are not acceptable).

(Surname)

(Given name)

(Middle or other names)

FESTINGER,

LEON

IRWIN

2. ALIASES AND NICKNAMES

none

3. DATE OF THIS REQUEST

August 7, 1953

4. SPECIAL NUMBERS KNOWN TO REQUESTING AGENCY (FBI number or FBI file number, passport number, Army or Navy serial number, seaman's certificate of identification, alien registration number, Social Security number, etc. Specify which)

Social Security # 120-01-2162

5. PLACE OF BIRTH

New York, New York

6. DATE OF BIRTH

5-8-19

7. TITLE OF POSITION

Expert

8. SEX

☒ MALE

☐ FEMALE

9. MARITAL STATUS

☐ SINGLE

☒ MARRIED

10. IF MARRIED, GIVE SPOUSE'S FULL NAME, AND DATE AND PLACE OF BIRTH

Mary Olive Ballou

December 9, 1917, Fairmont, Minnesota

11. DATE OF APPOINTMENT

12. TYPE OF APPOINTMENT:

☒ EXCEPTED

☐ TEMPORARY

☐ COMPETITIVE (Cite Civil Service or other legal authority)

13. ORGANIZATIONS WITH WHICH AFFILIATED OTHER THAN RELIGIOUS OR POLITICAL ORGANIZATIONS OR THOSE WHICH SHOW RELIGIOUS OR POLITICAL AFFILIATIONS

American Psychological Association

American Association for the Advancement of Science

14. DATES AND PLACES OF RESIDENCE FOR THE LAST 10 YEARS

From	To	Street	City	State
1951	present	1 Seymour Ave. S. E.	Minneapolis	Minnesota
1948	1951	1132 Martin Place	Ann Arbor	Michigan
1945	1948	57 Grove Hill Ave.	Newtonville	Massachusetts
1943	1945		Rochester	New York

15. DATES, NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF EMPLOYERS FOR THE LAST 10 YEARS

Date

Employer

Address

8-1-51 to present	University of Minnesota	Minneapolis, Minn.
8-48	University of Michigan	Ann Arbor, Michigan
45	Research Center for Gp Dynamics	Cambridge, Mass.
	Mass. Institute of Technology	
43	University of Rochester	Rochester, N. Y.
41	Child Welfare Station	
	University of Iowa	Iowa City, Iowa

16. THIS AGENCY HAS LOYALTY INFORMATION REPORT(S) FURNISHED BY THE AGENCIES INDICATED BELOW:

AGENCY WHICH MADE THE LOYALTY REPORT

DATE OF REPORT

none 1494-1

REMARKS

SE 48

OCT 20 1953

RECORDED - 95

REC'D SEC. SEC. SEC.

17. THIS SPACE RESERVED FOR RETURN REPORT TO AGENCY WHERE NO DEROGATORY INFORMATION IS DEVELOPED

18. NAME AND ADDRESS OF REQUESTING AGENCY

PI MP, SA, CM, BU, EC, NK, IL, 25  
FW, M, im, BS, DE, WFO, 10/26/53, CE, I, A, E, 10/10/53, EF.

WAF 20-4-3  
Hqs, 3700th Military Training Wing  
Lackland AFB, San Antonio, Texas

December 14, 1953

See letter to Mr. Kimbell Johnson, Chief, Investigations Division, U. S. Civil Service Commission, Washington 25, D. C., dated December 14, 1953.

FBI, Washington, D. C.

(Name of Reporting Agency)

**INSTRUCTIONS ON PREPARATION OF STANDARD FORM 85**

1. This form (Standard Form 85) is promulgated by the United States Civil Service Commission at the request of the Federal Bureau of Investigation for the purpose of carrying out the responsibilities with respect to applicants for Federal employment and persons appointed to Federal positions after September 30, 1947, as provided in Part 1 of Executive Order 9835.
2. All items must be filled in. If the answer is "No" or "None", so state.
3. The Fingerprint Chart (Standard Form 87) of the applicant or appointee must be submitted with the original and two copies of this form. The third carbon copy of the form should be retained by the agency.
4. If additional space is needed in filling in items 14 and 15, use a separate sheet of paper, number the item to correspond with the item number of this form, and attach.
5. If the requesting agency has previously received loyalty information from any Government agency (including the Federal Bureau of Investigation) concerning the employee named in this form, the name of the agency which furnished the information and the date of the report should be shown in item 16.
6. Item 17 is reserved for use in reporting on this request when no derogatory information is developed.
7. Whenever information is developed the report will be covered in item 19 above.
8. For further details regarding the use of this form see the Federal Personnel Manual, Chapter 12.

PI (X)

FFI ( )

Type \_\_\_\_\_

Received 9/30/53

Form 79 prepared \_\_\_\_\_

October 26, 1953

SAC Minneapolis

Director, FBI (140-1494) - 1

RECORDED - 98

LEON FESTINGER

Expert - Applicant

Department of the Air Force

Lackland Air Force Base

San Antonio, Texas

SECURITY OF GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES

Buded: 11/9/53

Attached are Photostats of material furnished this Bureau relative to the captioned individual. Conduct a full field investigation ( ) a preliminary inquiry (X ).

Minneapolis-San Antonio-Omaha-Buffalo- Boston-Detroit conduct a PI to:

( ) Determine whether captioned person is identical with the individual mentioned in Bufiles; if so, convert.

( ) Determine whether captioned person is identical with the individual mentioned in Bufiles. If identical, ascertain whether sufficient information is available to warrant an FFI; if so, convert.

(X ) Determine whether sufficient information exists to warrant an FFI; if so, convert.

Each PI should be sufficiently complete to resolve the question of loyalty.

(X ) If converted, advise Bureau and auxiliary offices, specifying 30-day Buded. If FFI conducted, (X ) WFO ( ) New York ( ) Baltimore ( ) St. Louis will check appropriate records in their district.

Reference is made to the report of Special Agent Brenton S. Gordon dated February 14, 1947, at Boston entitled "National Committee on Atomic Information; Federation of American Scientists; Federation of Atomic Scientists; National Committee for Civilian Control of Atomic Energy, Internal

cc: (2) San Antonio (Enc.)  
 (2) Omaha (Enc.)  
 (2) Buffalo (Enc.)  
 (2) Boston (Enc.)  
 (2) Detroit (Enc.)  
 (2) Washington Field (Enc.)

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
 Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
 Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
 Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
 Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
 Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
 Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
 Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
 Gearty \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
 Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
 Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
 Sizoo \_\_\_\_\_  
 Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosures

OCT 26 1953

COMM - FBI

RECEIVED

Oct 20 9 06 AM '73

FBI STAT SECT'N

RECEIVED MAIL ROOM  
FBI  
U S DEPT. OF JUSTICE  
OCT 20 1 25 PM '73

Security - C" Boston file 100-19119. Referenced report reflects that the Cambridge Association of Scientists was formed September, 1945, and affiliated with the Federation of American Scientists. Further reflected in referenced report is information concerning plans to affiliate the Federation of American Scientists with the American Association of Scientific Workers. The American Association of Scientific Workers has been cited by the California Committee on Un-American Activities. Set out on page 28 of this report is a list of names of those whose presence was assured at a conference of social and physical scientists on atomic energy by the Cambridge Association of Scientists and held October, 1946, at Harvard and MIT. Included in this list is Leon Festinger, Department of Economics, MIT. (100-344452)

Bureau files contain a transcript of the hearings before Subcommittees of the Committee of Foreign Relations, United States Senate, 81st Congress. Set out on page 160 of this transcript as a signer of a letter urging the reinstatement of three University of Washington professors who were discharged from the university for membership in "or ambiguous relationship to" the Communist Party is the name of Dr. Leon Festinger, University of Michigan. (121-23278-267 X 12), p. 160

San Antonio will ascertain if the applicant is still being considered for Federal employment.

(Memo to Air Force if converted.)



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Mr. FD-36
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Gandy
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Winterrowd
Mr. Holloman
Miss Gandy

FBI SAN ANTONIO

10/30/53

AIRTEL

Transmit the following Teletype message to:

DIRECTOR, FBI (100-11191)

LEON FESTINGER, EXPERT - APPLICANT, DEPARTMENT OF THE AF, LACKLAND

AFB, SAN ANTONIO, TEX. SGE, BUDED 11/9/53. REBULET 10/26/53.

MAJOR NORMAN MURRAY, EXECUTIVE OFFICER, HUMAN RESOURCES RESEARCH CENTER, 3700 MTW, LACKLAND AFB, ADVISED APPLICANT IS ON THEIR LIST OF AVAILABLE SCIENTISTS TO DO CONTRACT WORK IN RESEARCH FOR THE AIR FORCE. TO DATE, HE HAS NOT BEEN EMPLOYED, HOWEVER, IT IS POSSIBLE HE MAY BE SENT SOME WORK AT SOME FUTURE DATE AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA. ACCORDING TO MURRAY, SUCH WORK AND INFORMATION THAT MIGHT BE SENT FESTINGER WOULD NOT BE RESTRICTED NOR HIGHER CLASSIFICATION. RUC.

CHILES

2 cc Minneapolis

AWW/be  
140-40

AIR TEL

RECORDED - 98

OCT 31 1953

53 JAN 4 1954

Approved:

Special Agent in Charge

Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M

Per \_\_\_\_\_

RECEIVED TELETYPE UNIT

OCT 31 4 56 PM '53

F.B.I. DEPT OF JUSTICE

RECEIVED EMPLOYEES  
SECURITY SECTION  
OCT 29 9 51 AM '53  
F.B.I.  
U.S. DEPT OF JUSTICE

~~RECEIVED EMPLOYEES  
SECURITY SECTION  
OCT 33 9 13 AM '53  
F.B.I.  
U.S. DEPT OF JUSTICE~~

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

BUREAU

FILE NO.

REPORT MADE AT <b>BUFFALO</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>11-5-53</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>10/29,30/53</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>RAYMOND H. PORTER</b> <span style="float: right;"><b>mab</b></span>
TITLE <b>LEON FESTINGER</b> <b>Expert - Applicant</b> <b>Department of the Air Force</b> <b>Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>SECURITY OF GOVERNMENT</b> <b>EMPLOYEES</b>

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**

LEON FESTINGER favorably employed as instructor and statistician at University of Rochester, Rochester, N. Y., March, 1944, through October, 1945. Credit record located. No rating as to Rochester, N. Y. Criminal negative Rochester, N. Y.

AGENCY *photo - Agriculture*  
REQ. REC'D *2-3-50*  
REP'T FORW. *2-10-50*  
BY *M. L. High*

-RUC-

AGENCY *1cc 2-2*  
REQ. REC'D *5-17-55*  
REP'T FORW. *5-31-55*  
BY *Under 1/2/55*

REFERENCE: Bulet to Minneapolis dated October 26, 1953.

AGENCY *1cc 10/26/53*  
REQ. REC'D *11-5-53*  
REP'T FORW. *11-20-53*  
BY *W. J. Magnuson*

AGENCY *1cc State*  
REQ. REC'D *1-2-56*  
REP'T FORW. *1-17-56*  
BY *W. J. Magnuson*

AGENCY *photo - 02-8*  
REQ. REC'D *6-3-58*  
REP'T FORW. *6-20-58*  
BY *K. H. H. H.*

AGENCY *1cc 02-8*  
REQ. REC'D *5/10/57*  
DATE FORW. *5/10/57*  
HOW FORW. *Liason*  
BY *S. G. H. H.*

AGENCY *photo - H. C. H. W.*  
REQ. REC'D *2-11-60*  
REP'T FORW. *2-25-60*  
BY *Rep. ins*

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <b>HEB/TJS</b>	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	
COPIES OF THIS REPORT 5 - Bureau (140-1494) (AM) 1 - Buffalo (140-69) <div style="text-align: right; font-size: 1.5em;">53 JAN 4 1954</div>		PROPERTY OF FBI	<div style="text-align: right; font-size: 1.5em;">140-1494-3</div>
		This confidential report and its contents are loaned to you by the FBI and are not to be distributed outside of agency to which loaned. This is an FBI investigative report and makes no recommendation for clearance or disapproval.	
		RECORDED - 98	NOV 6 1953

1 - BUREAU (TWO-83)  
 2 - BUREAU (TWO-83) (2-2)  
 DIVISION OF AIRCRAFT

RECEIVED  
 F. B. I.  
 U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

NOV 6 3 40 PM '53

RECEIVED EMPLOYEES  
 SECURITY SECTION

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 REC. SEC. D  
 VCEMCA

BA  
 REC. I ROOM  
 REC. SEC. D  
 VCEMCA

-BRO-

Enclosed for the Bureau are two copies of a letterhead memorandum dated and captioned as above. The letterhead memorandum is being furnished to the Bureau for its information and for its use in the conduct of its business.

Enclosed for the Bureau are two copies of a letterhead memorandum dated and captioned as above. The letterhead memorandum is being furnished to the Bureau for its information and for its use in the conduct of its business.

ENCLOSURE  
 SECURITY FOR TRANSMISSION  
 DIVISION OF AIRCRAFT  
 DIVISION OF AIRCRAFT

EXECUTIVE SECRET OF INVESTIGATION

LEON FESTINGER  
Expert - Applicant  
Department of the Air Force  
Lackland Air Force Base  
San Antonio, Texas  
SECURITY OF GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES

November 5, 1953  
Buffalo, New York

### RESULTS OF INVESTIGATION

#### EMPLOYMENT

Miss MARION MC CLINTOCK, secretary to the Dean, School of Liberal Arts, University of Rochester, said LEON FESTINGER was favorably employed at that University on the Prince Street Campus, from March, 1944, to October 1, 1945, as an instructor in education and senior statistician.

Miss MC CLINTOCK said the applicant's birth record is included in the University files as May 18, 1919, at New York City, and further that he was married to MARY O. BALLOU during October, 1943.

Miss MC CLINTOCK said that during early October, 1953, an inquiry concerning the applicant had been made concerning his qualifications, however, she could not recall who made the inquiry. She added that on that occasion she had tried unsuccessfully to locate anyone on the faculty who remembered FESTINGER.

#### RESIDENCE

The 1945 Rochester City Directory lists LEON FESTINGER, research worker at the University of Rochester, as living at 207 Melville Street.

#### CREDIT

LEE PERO, Assistant Manager, Credit Bureau of Rochester, Inc., said that agency has had record of FESTINGER since 1945; however, no credit rating had been established and the record reflected only that the applicant was a statistician at the University of Rochester and formerly lived at 1 Belle Vista, Iowa City, Iowa.

#### CRIMINAL

Sergeant MARK HOULIHAN, Identification Division, Rochester Police Department, on October 30, 1953, did not locate a record for either the applicant or his wife.

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (140-1494)

DATE: 11-6-53

FROM : SAC, Omaha (140-36)

SUBJECT: LEON FESTINGER  
 Expert - Applicant  
 Department of the Air Force  
 Lackland Air Force Base  
 San Antonio, Texas  
 SECURITY OF GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES

Rebulet to Minneapolis dated October 26, 1953.

OCTAVIA PRATT, Registrar's Office, University of Iowa, Iowa City, Iowa, advised FESTINGER, born May 8, 1919, at Brooklyn, New York, entered Graduate College September 18, 1939 and received his Master's Degree August 2, 1940 and his Ph.D. Degree July 31, 1942, majoring in Child Psychology. These records reflected he resided at 510 Iowa Avenue, Iowa City, during the entire period of his attendance. The above records contained no information reflecting on the applicant's loyalty.

DORA TUCKER, landlady, 510 Iowa Avenue, Iowa City, Iowa, who is very elderly, advised she recalled FESTINGER as an honest, reliable, industrious student, who was of good character and loyal to the interests of the United States. She advised FESTINGER resided at her home from 1939 to 1942 when he returned to Brooklyn, New York.

BETTY MASON STILLIANS, Secretary, Child Welfare Department, University of Iowa, East Hall, Iowa City, Iowa, advised the records of that office reflect that FESTINGER worked in the Child Welfare Station while he was seeking his Ph.D. Degree in Child Psychology and worked closely with Dr. ROBERT R. SEARS, now the Head of the Department of Psychology at Stanford University. Miss STILLIANS stated FESTINGER left the University of Iowa in 1943 and accepted a position at the University of Rochester, Rochester, New York. Miss STILLIANS also advised that FESTINGER worked as a statistical consultant on research projects under the direction of Professor KURT LEWIN, now deceased. She explained that the records of the above office reflect considerable correspondence between FESTINGER and Dr. SEARS

63 JAN 4 1954  
 EVK:jmg

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NOV 10 1953

EMP. SEC. SECT.

F. B. I.  
U. S. DEPT OF JUSTICE

OV 10 4 00 PM '53

RECEIVED EMPLOYEES  
SECURITY SECTION

OM 140-36

concerning various research problems they were conducting, as well as personnel matters, but did not contain any information reflecting on the loyalty of FESTINGER.

Dr. BOYD R. MC CANDLESS, Head of Child Welfare Department, East Hall, University of Iowa, Iowa City, Iowa, stated he was a close personal friend of the applicant and has maintained close contact even since the applicant left Iowa City in August 1943. He said FESTINGER is considered an expert in psychology group work and is a brilliant statistical research man. He said FESTINGER has never engaged in political activities of any kind and has never indicated any interest in matters political. He related that FESTINGER is devoted to research and added that he is confident that FESTINGER's loyalty is entirely with the United States. He said applicant has never been a member of any subversive organization, has never supported the ideals of any subversive organization, and has always maintained loyal associates. MC CANDLESS said that in his judgment, FESTINGER can be entrusted with confidential information.

Dr. KENNETH SPENCE, Head of Department of Psychology, East Hall, University of Iowa, Iowa City, Iowa, stated he was closely associated with FESTINGER as a student at the University and found him to be reliable, honest, trustworthy, and definitely loyal to the United States. He related that FESTINGER secured his Ph.D. Degree while engaged in the Child Welfare Department and upon completion of his studies, assisted Dr. SPENCE on several research projects under the supervision of the National Research Council. He said applicant was employed as a statistician and also taught for a short period at the Army ASTP Program as held at the State University of Iowa. SPENCE advised applicant also taught statistics at this Program and assisted Dr. SPENCE as a consultant on Navy research. He explained that he was certain that FESTINGER was cleared at that time for handling the research project. SPENCE further advised that FESTINGER has never been linked with any subversive organization or group and he considered applicant to be a loyal American citizen.

Dr. GUSTAV BERGMAN, Head of the Department of Philosophy, East Hall, University of Iowa, Iowa City, Iowa, stated he knew applicant very well as a good student and has followed his career closely. He said applicant is a brilliant scholar



CM 140-36

and is outstanding as an individual of good character and reputation. He stated FESTINGER never discussed political matters and he, therefore, had no information concerning his political beliefs. He added, however, that he was certain that FESTINGER was not a member of any subversive group or organization while at the University of Iowa and never expressed any interest in any subversive activity. Dr. BERGMAN stated that with the philosophical, psychological and social background and training, FESTINGER has experienced, as well as the views he has expressed, it would be incongruous to even suspect that FESTINGER would ever have anything to do with Communist ideologies. Dr. BERGMAN said he definitely considered FESTINGER to be a loyal citizen.

NANCY MITCHUM, Employment Office, University of Iowa. Iowa City, Iowa, advised that a statistical sheet completed in March 1942 lists LEON FESTINGER employed as a Statistician and Research Associate in the Child Welfare Station. The above records contained no derogatory or disloyal information and indicated that he terminated in September 1942. It was noted that FESTINGER listed prior experience as "Assistant Psychometrist" at the Psychopathic Hospital, State University of Iowa, from September 1940 to February 1942.

JOHN NIESE, Iowa City Credit Bureau, Iowa City, Iowa, advised that his record contained no reference to FESTINGER.

ED RUPPERT, Chief, Iowa City Police Department, Iowa City, Iowa, stated FESTINGER has never been arrested by that Department.  
RUC.

4-22

Subj: Testimony

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Birthdate: \_\_\_\_\_

SUPV: \_\_\_\_\_

Misc: \_\_\_\_\_

R# 383

Date 1/20/67

Searcher

Initial J-12

FILE NUMBER

SERIAL

↓ 100-120277-67 page 7

↓ 121-23278-267 X12-P.160

↓ 100-34452-45 page 28

CB

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI (140-1494)

DATE: November 7, 1953

FROM : SAC, Minneapolis (140-71)

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

SUBJECT: LEON FESTINGER  
Expert - Applicant  
Department of the Air Force  
Lackland Air Force Base  
San Antonio, Texas  
SECURITY OF GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES

AIR MAIL SPECIAL DELIVERY

b6  
b7C

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Ladd	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Belmont	_____
Mr. Clegg	_____
Mr. Glavin	_____
Mr. Harbo	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tracy	_____
Mr. Egan	_____
Mr. Gurnea	_____
Mr. Hendon	_____
Mr. Pennington	_____
Mr. Quinn	_____
Mr. Nease	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Mr. Holloman	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

Re Bulet to Minneapolis, 10/26/53.

The applicant's employment at the University of Minnesota was verified by EVELYN OSTERLOH as being from August 1, 1951, to the present. The applicant entered as an Associate Professor and was promoted to a full professorship on October 1, 1952. He is employed as a research expert in the laboratory for research in social relations. The record reflects that Dr. FESTINGER was born May 8, 1919, at New York City, and the applicant's employment record at the University of Minnesota contains no derogatory information.

Dr. NED FLANDERS, Professor of Psychology, University of Minnesota, Ford Hall 492, Minneapolis, Minnesota, advised that he has known Dr. FESTINGER since his employment at the University and considers him to be entirely loyal and a trustworthy American citizen. Dr. FLANDERS said that he has observed that the applicant is totally uninterested in politics and that his entire interest lies in research among social groups, where he is regarded as an outstanding expert in his field. Dr. FESTINGER's moral habits, character, and associations are of the highest, according to Dr. FLANDERS.

Miss ETTA SALOSCHIN, Ford Hall 453, Associate Professor in Sociology, advised that she is acquainted with the applicant and also knows him by reputation. Miss SALOSCHIN advised that the applicant was brought here from the University of Michigan to engage in special research among social groups and as being supported by a Ford Foundation grant. Miss SALOSCHIN advised that in her opinion, the applicant is a man of outstanding character, habits, and associates, and is a loyal citizen.

Professor A. D. MONACHESI, Chairman of the Sociology Department, University of Minnesota, advised that he has known the applicant for three years and regards him as being entirely loyal to the United States and completely disinterested in any political field where it does not enter into his research. Dr. MONACHESI described the applicant, in other words, as being completely nonpolitical, interested only in research problems among social groups. Dr. MONACHESI also advised that the applicant is a high-type individual, of excellent associates and of good personal character.

53 JAN 4 1954

RECORDED - 98

NOV 9 1953

140-1494-51  
EMP. SEC. SECT.

F. B. I.  
U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

NOV 9 4 18 PM '52

RECEIVED EMPLOYEES  
SECURITY SECTION

TO DIRECTOR, FBI (100-371101) FROM SAC, NEW YORK (100-100000) (P)  
SUBJECT: [Illegible]

RE NEW YORK TELETYPE TO BUREAU, NOVEMBER 8, 1952.  
[Illegible text]

NEW YORK OFFICE IS CURRENTLY CONDUCTING AN INVESTIGATION  
[Illegible text]

IT IS REQUESTED THAT YOU ADVISE THE BUREAU OF ANY DEVELOPMENTS  
[Illegible text]

VERY TRULY YOURS,  
[Illegible signature]

ADMINISTRATIVE:  
[Illegible text]

ENCLOSURE

100-100000-11

100-100000-12

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 10-10-01 BY 60322 UCBAW

Memo: Director, FBI

Re: LEON FESTINGER

November 7, 1953

Dr. BEN WILLERMAN, Dr. of Psychology, Eddy Hall, University of Minnesota, advised that he has known Dr. FESTINGER since 1941 when they both attended the University of Iowa. Dr. WILLERMAN also knew the applicant at the University of Michigan and MIT at Cambridge, Massachusetts, and he has been associated with the applicant since about the fall of 1951 at the University of Minnesota. Dr. WILLERMAN advised that he has known the applicant very closely, both socially and in the educational field for twelve years, and he regards the applicant as being a man of outstanding habits, character, and is unquestionably loyal to the United States. Dr. WILLERMAN advised that through this period of twelve years, he has never noted by way of conversation or otherwise that Dr. FESTINGER has any strong political leanings or affiliations. He described the applicant as being primarily a research man in small social groups and is not interested in political activities and appears to have no strong political convictions. Dr. WILLERMAN stated that the applicant is among the ten outstanding men in the United States in the field of social research to which he is devoted.

Mrs. M. O. RISLOV, 15 Seymour Avenue, Minneapolis, Minnesota, advised that she has known the applicant and his family for approximately three years as a neighbor and advised that Dr. FESTINGER and his wife are highly regarded in the neighborhood and have never said anything to indicate disloyalty, and associate primarily with educators at the University of Minnesota.

Mr. and Mrs. NICHOLAS PUSAK, 44 Clarence Street, Minneapolis, Minnesota, advised that they have known the applicant and his family for two years and advised that they are persons of very high character and reputation, and, insofar as they know, are loyal American citizens.

Mr. and Mrs. HERBERT McCLOSKEY, 3 Orlin Street, Minneapolis, Minnesota, advised that they have known the applicant and his family as a neighbor for about three years. Mr. McCLOSKEY also advised that he is acquainted with the applicant in the Sociology Department at the University of Minnesota. Both Mr. and Mrs. McCLOSKEY were lavish in their praise of the applicant's good character, habits, and reputation in the neighborhood. Mr. McCLOSKEY advised that the applicant is of a nonpolitical type and is mostly interested in pure sociological research. Their associates are people of very high quality, mostly people from the University of Minnesota.

[redacted] was contacted on November 2, 1953, and advised that the applicant is unknown to this informant. This informant is familiar with Communist activities at the University of Minnesota.

b7D

[redacted] was contacted on November 3, 1953, by SA JACK F. MURPHEE and advised that the applicant is unknown to this informant. This informant is also familiar with Communist youth groups in the Twin Cities area.

The records of the Minneapolis Credit Bureau, 600 Palace Building, Minneapolis, Minnesota, contained no derogatory information concerning the applicant in regard to character, loyalty, associates, and habits.

Memo: Director, FBI

Re: LEON FESTINGER

November 7, 1953

The records of the Minneapolis Police Department, Minneapolis, Minnesota, contains no information identifiable with the applicant and his wife.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
BOSTON, MASS.

11/8/53

Air Tel

Transmit the following ~~TELETYPE~~ message to: DIRECTOR (140-1494)

LEON FESTINGER, EXPERT - APPLICANT; SECURITY GOVERNMENT  
EMPLOYEES. BUDED 11/9/53. UNABLE CONTACT APPLICANT'S  
FORMER SUPERIORS AT MIT UNTIL 11/10/53. REPORT TO BE SUB-  
MITTED THAT DATE.

KELLY

JFN:jfn  
140-184

FD-36	Mr. Tolson
	Mr. Ladd
	Mr. Nichols
	Mr. Belmont
	Mr. Clegg
	Mr. Glavin
	Mr. Harbo
	Mr. Rosen
	Mr. Tracy
	Mr. Gandy
	Mr. Mohr
	Mr. Winterrowd
	Mr. Nease
	Mr. Holloman
	Miss Gandy

RECORDED - 98

140-1494-6  
DEC 23 1953  
25

296  
JAN 4 1954

Approved: JMC  
Special Agent in Charge

Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M Per \_\_\_\_\_

Nov 10 10 33 AM '53

F. B. I.  
U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

Nov 10 10 42 AM '53

RECEIVED EMPLOYEES  
SECURITY SECTION



## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (140-1494)

DATE: 11/10/53

FROM : SAC, BOSTON (140-184)

SUBJECT: LEON FESTINGER  
 Expert - Applicant  
 Department of the Air Force  
 Lackland Air Force Base  
 San Antonio, Texas  
 SECURITY OF GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES

Reference Bureau letter to Minneapolis dated October 26, 1953, initiating a preliminary investigation concerning the above Applicant.

BASIS

This investigation is based on the fact that Applicant's name appears on a list of names of persons whose attendance was assured at a conference of social and physical scientists on atomic energy held by the Cambridge Association of Scientists in October of 1946, at Harvard University and Massachusetts Institute of Technology, both located in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

The Cambridge Association of Scientists has been reported by   to have been a subdivision of the Federation of American Scientists in 1947.

b7D

In November, 1946,  advised that the amalgamation of the Federation of American Scientists with the American Association of Scientific Workers was brought up for discussion at the convention of the American Association of Scientific Workers held at Boston, Massachusetts, in December, 1946, but this proposal was defeated by a vote of the members in attendance at the convention.

The American Association of Scientific Workers has been cited by the California Committee on Un-American Activities as being included among the Communist Fronts at the Win the Peace Conference in Washington, D. C., April 5-7, 1946.

EMPLOYMENT

Miss FIGGOTT, Secretary to the President, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, Massachusetts, furnished the Applicant's file relating to his employment by Massachusetts Institute of Technology. This indicates that Applicant was employed as a resident instructor at

JFN:MT

RECORDED - 98

NOV 12 1953

EMPLOYMENT SECTION

F. B. I.

U. S. DEPT OF JUSTICE

OV 12 5 21 PM '53

RECEIVED EMPLOYEES  
SECURITY SECTION

(T. H. W.)

T/V/V3

BS 140-184

the Center for Group Dynamics from March 1, 1945 until July 1, 1947, when he became an Assistant Professor. Applicant resigned on June 30, 1948.

Applicant's file shows that he received a Bachelor of Science Degree from City College of New York in 1939, the Degree of Master of Arts from Iowa University in 1940 and the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy from the same university in 1942.

He was previously employed as a Psychologist at the Psychopathic Hospital of the University of Iowa in 1940 and 1941. He then worked as a Resident Associate at the Child Welfare Research Station in Iowa, the exact period of this employment not being reflected by the records. From 1942 to 1944, he was employed as an instructor in the Department of Psychology at the University of Iowa and from 1944 to 1945, he served as Senior Statistician for the Commission on the Selection and Training of Aircraft Pilots.

The only organizations in which he claims membership is the Sigma Chi fraternity and the American Psychological Association. The file reflects that Applicant has published several papers on Statistics and Theoretical Psychology.

According to the file Applicant was born in New York City, New York, on May 8, 1919.

Professor RALPH E. FREEMAN, Head of the Department of Economics, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, advised that Applicant had worked in his department while employed as a Professor at Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Professor FREEMAN advised that the Applicant is regarded as a brilliant man in his field which is primarily Mathematics. Applicant under Professor KURT LEVINE, recently deceased, and his work dealt with research into some of the psychological aspects of the field of Economics.

Professor FREEMAN stated that while he naturally had a considerable amount of contact with the Applicant, since the Applicant worked in a department headed by him, he had little, if any, contact with the Applicant outside of the college. He found the Applicant to be a man who seemed normal in every respect, moderate in his ideas, of good moral habits and to the best of his knowledge a loyal American.

BS 140-184

Professor FREEMAN stated that he believed that all of the professors with whom the Applicant had associated or worked were no longer with Massachusetts Institute of Technology. The only person whom he believed would know the Applicant is Professor ALEXANDER BAVELAS, also a member of the Department of Economics.

Professor ALEXANDER BAVELAS stated that he had known the Applicant first in the Graduate School of the University of Iowa, where he had been associated with the Applicant for three years. Professor BAVELAS later worked in the Department of Economics at Massachusetts Institute of Technology during the last year which the Applicant spent at Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Professor BAVELAS advised that the Applicant was a man of very positive beliefs and very outspoken in any matter which entered his field of Mathematics. However, in any other subject which might come up he was moderate in his ideas and not inclined to assert himself. Professor BAVELAS advised that he is positive that the Applicant would present no security risk, and he recommends him as a man of good character and habits and a loyal American.

#### NEIGHBORHOOD

Mrs. CARL L. SWAN, [redacted] Newton, Massachusetts, recalled Applicant and his wife as having lived [redacted] at 79 Grove Hill Avenue, and not 57, as listed on Request for Report of Loyalty Data. Mrs. SWAN stated that she never had a real close association with either Applicant or his wife, since the FESTINGERS were in a younger age group than herself. She advised that Applicant was employed by Massachusetts Institute of Technology and was understood to be working on important work for that institution. This work kept him so busy that he had little time for his own family and practically no time for anything else. Applicant and his wife impressed Mrs. SWAN as being normal, everyday Americans, possessing good living habits and from the little association she had with them, she knows of no reason to consider either Applicant or his wife as possible security risks.

Mrs. FRANCIS POLONSKY, [redacted] furnished the same information as Mrs. SWAN. She pointed out that Applicant was too busy with his work for anyone to get to know him and his wife was too busy with her young children to have much time to become acquainted with her

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BS 140-184

neighbors. She likewise recommended the FLESTINGERS as persons of good character and she knows of no reason to question the loyalty of either of them.

Mrs. IRVING LUDWIN, [redacted] and Mrs. JOSEPH PARADIS, [redacted] advised that they had no knowledge of the Applicant or his wife.

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#### CREDIT

Personnel of the Credit Bureau of Greater Boston, Inc., 11 Beacon Street, Boston, Massachusetts, found no credit record for the Applicant or his wife.

#### CRIMINAL

Personnel of the Massachusetts State Board of Probation, Court House, Boston, Massachusetts, a central repository for all criminal conviction records in the State of Massachusetts, could find no criminal record for the Applicant or his wife.

#### MISCELLANEOUS

Files of the Boston Division contain no reference to the Applicant, beyond that previously set forth.

Logical Boston Informants [redacted] and [redacted] who are acquainted with some phases of Communist Party activities in Massachusetts, had no information concerning the Applicant.

b7D

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **BUREAU**

REPORT MADE AT <b>DETROIT, MICHIGAN</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>11/28/53</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>11/23, 24/53</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>ROBERT L. MAYFIELD</b> <span style="float: right;">PWW</span>
TITLE <b>LEON FESTINGER, Expert - Applicant, Department of the Air Force, Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>SECURITY OF GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES</b>

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**

Applicant employed by U. of M., Ann Arbor, Mich. from 8/48 to 8/51 in the Psychology Dept. Employment satisfactory. Nothing unfavorable regarding Applicant through University officials. Applicant's immediate supervisors regard highly as to character, reputation, habits and as loyal American citizen. Recommend as excellent security risk for government employment. Neighborhood investigation unproductive. Reliable Informants, Ann Arbor area, do not know Applicant. Police and credit records at Ann Arbor make no reference to Applicant or family.

AGENCY photo - Agriculture  
 REQ. REC'D 2-3-59  
 REP'T FORM. 2-10-59  
 BY mg

- R U C -

AGENCY cc State  
 REQ. REC'D 1-4-56  
 REP'T FORM. 1-17-56  
 BY alf-gms

**REFERENCE:**

Bureau letter to Minneapolis, dated October 26, 1953.

AGENCY photo - 4 ex w  
 REQ. REC'D 2-11-60  
 REP'T FORM. 2-25-60  
 BY def

AGENCY cc - CWO  
 REQ. REC'D 2/10/52  
 DATE FOR. 2/14/52  
 HOW FOR. Quinn  
 BY SD new

AGENCY cc 42  
 REQ. REC'D 5-17-55  
 REP'T FORM. 5-31-55  
 BY mla / hyl

AGENCY cc - 100  
 REQ. REC'D 4-5-54  
 REP'T FORM. 4-20-54  
 BY W. J. G. / W. J. G.

AGENCY photo - ord  
 REQ. REC'D 6-3-58  
 REP'T FORM. 6-20-58  
 BY H. H. - wa

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: 	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES
COPIES OF THIS REPORT ⑤ - Bureau (140-1494) AMSD 1 - Detroit (140-171)  <b>53 JAN 4 1954</b>		<b>140-1494-8</b>  <b>NOV 30 1954</b> <b>SEC. SECT.</b>
		RECORDED - 98 INDEXED - 98

F. B. I.  
U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

07 30 2 20 PM '53

RECEIVED EMPLOYEES  
SECURITY SECTION

MAILED  
FBI  
DEC 1 1953

BA  
RECEIVED  
DEC 1 1953

MAILED  
FBI  
DEC 1 1953

MAILED  
FBI  
DEC 1 1953

LEON FESTINGER  
Expert - Applicant  
Department of the Air Force  
Lackland Air Force Base  
San Antonio, Texas  
SECURITY OF GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEES

Detroit, Michigan  
November 28, 1953

### III. RESULTS OF INVESTIGATION

Confidential Informant Detroit T-1, of known reliability, advised the Applicant, LEON FESTINGER, was employed by the University of Michigan as an Assistant Professor of Psychology and as an Assistant Program Director of the Survey Research Center, Group Dynamics, of the Institute of Social Research. T-1 advised this employment was from August 1948 to August 1951. T-1 further advised the Applicant was born on May 8, 1919 at New York, New York. Applicant received a Bachelor of Arts degree from City College of New York in 1939; a Master of Arts degree in 1940 from State University of Iowa; and a Doctorate ~~degree~~ from the same institution in 1942, according to T-1. T-1 advised the Applicant was married on October 23, 1943 to MARY OLIVE BALLOW, who was born on December 9, 1917 at Fairmont, Minnesota. There are two children by this union, according to T-1.

T-1 advised he did not know the Applicant personally, therefore, could furnish no comments, but stated the records reflected no unfavorable information pertaining to the Applicant.

Confidential Informant Detroit T-2, of known reliability, advised he did not recall the Applicant while he was employed by the University. T-2 stated the Applicant was not a member or adviser for any campus organization while at the University.

Dr. DONALD G. MARQUIS, PhD., Chairman of the Department of Psychology, 7604 Haven Hall, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan, advised the Applicant was well known to him. He stated the Applicant is recognized as an outstanding psychologist in the field of Social Psychology. Dr. MARQUIS stated the Applicant was energetic and displayed great enthusiasm in his work as a scientist. He advised the Applicant was of high moral character and integrity and there was no question regarding his loyalty to the United States. Dr. MARQUIS stated the Applicant would be an excellent security risk for government employment as he did not associate or belong to any questionable organizations.

Dr. MARQUIS stated he would describe the Applicant as a "New Deal" Democrat and a "liberal". He stated by "liberal", he meant one who would be for the "underdog" and "surpressed individuals" in the world today.



Dr. MARQUIS further advised the Applicant had no bad habits and was a devoted family man. He stated he would recommend the Applicant without reservation for a position with the government.

Dr. DORWIN CARTWRIGHT, PhD., Director of the Research Center for Group Dynamics, 157 Institute of Social Research, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, advised he has known the Applicant for a number of years and regards the Applicant very highly. Dr. CARTWRIGHT stated there is no question regarding the Applicant's character, reputation or loyalty to the United States. He advised the Applicant is a person of the highest integrity, of good moral character, and an excellent security risk for employment with the government. Dr. CARTWRIGHT further advised the Applicant, to his knowledge, never affiliated or associated with questionable organizations or individuals. Dr. CARTWRIGHT advised he could recommend the Applicant for a position with the government.

Investigation at 1132 Martin Place, Ann Arbor, Michigan, former residence of the Applicant, failed to develop any unfavorable information regarding the Applicant or his family. The following individuals were contacted:

Mrs. GILBERT W. FLETCHER

[REDACTED]

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b7C

Mrs. G. D. PIERCE

[REDACTED]

Mrs. RAY W. HEMPHILL

[REDACTED]

Reliable Informants, who are acquainted with some of the Communist Party members and some of the Communist Party activities in the Ann Arbor area, advised the Applicant is not known to them.

The Identification Records of the Ann Arbor Police Department and the records of the Ann Arbor Credit Bureau made no reference to the Applicant or his family.

(DE 140-171)

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

INFORMANTS

T-1 . . . . . is [ ] whose identity is known to the Bureau. b7D

T-2 . . . . . is [ ] whose identity is known to the Bureau.

[ ] and [ ] were contacted by SA J. RAYMOND  
COGHLAN on November 23, 1953.

It is realized that this Preliminary Investigation should have been submitted to the Bureau in letter form, however, it was received as a Rough Draft in Report form and is, therefore, being submitted as such inasmuch as the Michigan investigation is complete and should this investigation be converted to a Full Field Investigation no additional action will be required by Detroit.

110000

Mr. Thomas James  
Chief, Investigations Division  
U. S. Postal Service, Washington  
Washington 25, D. C.

Address: Lake Mead, Nevada  
 United States of America

10/10/1984  
 Report of 10/10/1984  
 10/10/1984  
 10/10/1984  
 10/10/1984  
 10/10/1984  
 10/10/1984

As part of the evaluation, a number of factors were considered, including the following:

The medical files of a 12-year-old boy, who was the subject of a coronial inquest, were made available to a committee of hospital staff. A committee of the Institute of Public Health, London, in 1961, reported on the case. It stated that the boy had been the subject of a coronial inquest, and that the coroner had found that the boy had died of a heart attack. The coroner had also found that the boy had been the subject of a coronial inquest, and that the coroner had found that the boy had died of a heart attack.

\*The general and specific testing conditions for the instrumentation of industry; a) instrument

1. The first step is to identify the problem. In this case, the problem is that the user is unable to access the website.

12871-17



RECEIVED MAIL ROOM  
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

SEP 22 1957

SEP 14 1957

TO : SAC, NEW YORK  
FROM : SAC, NEW YORK  
SUBJECT: [illegible]  
[illegible text]

RE: [illegible]  
[illegible text]

[Large block of illegible text, likely the main body of a memorandum or letter.]



"One hundred and fifty educational leaders from more than 50 colleges and universities throughout the country have urged Dr. Raymond Allen, president of the University of Washington, to reinstate with full rights of tenure the 3 professors recently discharged from the university for membership in or 'ambiguous relation to' the Communist Party in a letter released today (Tuesday) by the Bureau of Academic Freedom of the National Council of the Arts, Sciences, and Professions..."

"Following is the complete text of the letter released by Dr. Clyde R. Miller, director of the NCASP Bureau on Academic Freedom.

"The principle that every citizen has a right to his personal beliefs and associations and to voluntary participation in the affairs of the community is fundamental to the traditional American concepts of democracy and academic freedom.

"The recent decision of the University of Washington to dismiss three faculty members on the basis of membership in the Communist Party, or on the premise of 'guilt by association' is a shocking repudiation of this principle. If these dismissed professors are not reinstated, the result will be irreparable damage to all educational institutions and particularly to the University of Washington.

"The University's action, if it is not swiftly reversed, will set a precedent for the dismissal of any instructor for any personal beliefs and associations.

"As educators, deeply concerned for our own civil rights and those of our fellow citizens, and cognizant of the further implications of this action as a threat to our entire system, we urge the immediate reinstatement, with full rights of tenure of the dismissed professors Phillips, Butterworth, and Gundlach."

One of the signers of the statement to President Allen was listed as Dr. Leon Festinger, University of Michigan. Applicant's security form reflects that he was employed at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan, from August, 1948, to August, 1951. A 1950 report of the House Committee on Un-American Activities describes the National Council of the Arts, Sciences, and Professions as a Communist front.

During this Bureau's inquiry, associates of the applicant at the Universities of Minnesota, Iowa and Michigan and at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology were contacted. All of these associates advised that they considered Festinger to be a loyal American citizen. He was described as being a brilliant individual, outstanding in the field of social research, and a man of excellent character.

Law enforcement agencies covering the applicant's places of residence and employment in Minnesota, Michigan, Massachusetts, New York and Iowa, had no record for the applicant.

Confidential informants familiar with some phases of Communist Party and related activities in the above-named states advised that they have no information concerning the applicant.

The foregoing confidential information, which is not the result of a full field investigation by the FBI, is being furnished to you for your consideration. No further action is contemplated in this matter by this Bureau unless specifically requested. This confidential information should not be disseminated to any unauthorized persons or agencies, and this Bureau makes no recommendation regarding clearance or disapproval of the applicant.

  
Attachment

MAILED

JUN 3 1955

NAME CHECK

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

June 2, 1955

LEON FESTINGER  
Born: May 8, 1919  
New York City, New York

LEON FESTINGER - SUMMARY

In October, 1953, a limited inquiry concerning the captioned individual was conducted by the FBI based on the fact that Festinger's name appeared on a list of persons whose attendance was assured at a conference of atomic energy scientists, held by the Cambridge Association of Scientists in October, 1946. This association was reported by a reliable source to have been a subdivision of the Federation of American Scientists, which, in 1946, was considering amalgamation with the American Association of Scientific Workers. This latter association has been cited by the California Committee on Un-American Activities as being included among the Communist Fronts at the Win the Peace Conference in Washington, D. C., April 5-7, 1946. Enclosed is one copy each of two reports reflecting the results of the limited inquiry referred to above. (140-1494-7)

The central files of this Bureau reflect the receipt of information which appears in a transcript of hearings before a Subcommittee of the Committee on Foreign Relations, U. S. Senate, in 1950. An exhibit, as obtained during the course of the above hearings, is a release dated March 1, 1949, of the Bureau of Academic Freedom, National Council of the Arts, Sciences, and Professions, 49 West 14th Street, New York. The exhibit is set forth in part as follows:

"One Hundred and Fifty Leading Educators Call For Reinstatement of University of Washington Professors.

"Letters to Dr. Allen Calls Firing Threat to Entire Educational System.

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
 Sizoo \_\_\_\_\_  
Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

Enclosures (2)

RECORDED - 87

INDEXED - 87

Orig. to G-2  
Req rec'd: 5-17-55  
M. L. ARMSTRONG:tar

JUN 3 1955

JUN 9 1955

NOTE: Incoming G-2 from lists the present address of the captioned individual as 1 Seymour Ave, S.E. Minneapolis, Minnesota. This information sent CSC 12/14/53.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

"One hundred and fifty educational leaders from more than 50 colleges and universities throughout the country have urged Dr. Raymond Allen, president of the University of Washington, to reinstate with full rights of tenure the 3 professors recently discharged from the university for membership in or 'ambiguous relation to' the Communist Party in a letter released today (Tuesday) by the Bureau of Academic Freedom of the National Council of the Arts, Sciences, and Professions..."

One of the signers of the statement to President Allen was listed as Dr. Leon Festinger, University of Michigan. Applicant's security form reflects that he was employed at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan, from August, 1948, to August, 1951. A 1950 report of the House Committee on Un-American Activities describes the National Council of the Arts, Sciences, and Professions as a Communist front.

During this Bureau's inquiry, associates of Festinger at the Universities of Minnesota, Iowa and Michigan and at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology were contacted. All of these associates advised that they considered Festinger to be a loyal American citizen. He was described as being a brilliant individual, outstanding in the field of social research, and a man of excellent character.

Law enforcement agencies covering Festinger's places of residence and employment in Minnesota, Michigan, Massachusetts, New York and Iowa, had no record for him.

Confidential informants familiar with some phases of Communist Party and related activities in the above-named states advised that they have no information concerning Festinger.

(140-1494)

The foregoing information is furnished to you as a result of your request for an FBI file check and is not to be construed as a clearance or a nonclearance of the individual involved. This information is furnished for your use and should not be disseminated outside of your agency.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~



JUN 13 1961

STANDARD FORM 85  
Revised October 1954  
U. S. Civil Service Commission  
(Chapter 12, F. P. M.)

SECURITY INVESTIGATION DATA  
FOR NONSENSITIVE POSITION

(SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON OTHER SIDE)

CASE SERIAL NO. (CSC Use Only)

10-61-19723

1. FULL NAME

A. (Last Name) (First Name) (Middle Name)

FESTINGER

LEON

DATE OF THIS REQUEST

2. DATE OF BIRTH

May 8, 1919

3. PLACE OF BIRTH

New York City NY

4. ☒ MALE

☐ FEMALE

5. SINGLE

☒ MARRIED

☐ WIDOW(ER)

☐ DIVORCED

6. IF MARRIED, WIDOWED, OR DIVORCED, GIVE FULL NAME AND DATE AND PLACE OF BIRTH OF SPOUSE OR FORMER SPOUSE AND DATE AND PLACE OF MARRIAGE, INCLUDE WIFE'S MAIDEN NAME. (Give same information regarding all previous marriages).

Mary Olive Ballou Festinger

Born -- Dec. 9, 1917, Fairmont, Minn.

Married 10/23/43 - Iowa City, Iowa

7. IDENTIFYING NUMBERS (Army, Navy, Air Force, Coast Guard, Marine, Merchant Marine, Civilian, etc.)

Social Security No. 120-01-2162

8. ORGANIZATIONS WITH WHICH AFFILIATED (Past and present, OTHER THAN RELIGIOUS OR POLITICAL ORGANIZATIONS OR THOSE WHICH SHOW RELIGIOUS OR POLITICAL AFFILIATIONS "None," so state).

Sigma Xi 1940 to 1952; American Psychological Ass'n. 1939 to present; New York

Academy of Science 1946; Amer. Ass'm. Advancement of Science; Amer. Academy Art & Science

9. DATES AND PLACES OF RESIDENCE (Begin with present and go back to January 1, 1937. Continue on other side if necessary).

From	To	Number and Street	City	State
before 1937	1939	90A Heyward St.	Brooklyn	N.Y.
1939	1942		Iowa City	Iowa
1943	1945		Rochester	N.Y.
1945	1948	57 Grove Hill Drive	Newtonville	Mass.
1948	1951	1132 Martin Place	Ann Arbor	Mich.
1951	1955	1 Seymour S.E.	Minneapolis	Minn.
1955	present	1031 Hamilton Ave.	Palo Alto	Calif.

BY COURIER SVC.

56 JUN 27

10. LATEST NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF EMPLOYERS (Begin with present and go back to January 1, 1937. Continue on other side if necessary).

From	To	Employer	Address
1955	present	Stanford University	Stanford, Calif.
1951	1955	University of Minnesota	Minneapolis, Minn.
1948	1951	University of Michigan	Ann Arbor, Mich.
1945	1948	Mass. Institute of Technology	Cambridge, Mass.
1943	1945	University of Rochester	Rochester, New York
1941	1943	University of Iowa	Iowa City, Iowa

No employment prior to this.

CERTIFICATION

I CERTIFY that the above statements are true, correct, and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief, and are made in good faith.

False statement on this form is punishable by law.

9-16-60

11. DATE OF APPOINTMENT

9/60

12. TITLE OF POSITION AND GRADE OR SALARY

Consultant

14. TYPE OF APPOINTMENT

☒ EXCEPTED

☐ COMPETITIVE

(Includes indefinite and temporary types of competitive appointment.)

16. This is a Nonsensitive Position.

17. THIS SPACE FOR FBI USE (See also item 20)

Dale R. Lindsay, Chief, Division of Research Grants

Stat. Sect. Subv. Deleg.  
Data sent

SEE REVERSE SIDE

E. Deal, Spec. Asst. to the Dep. Dir.  
NIH - Bethesda 14, Maryland

62 JUL 3 1961

525

61 JUN 27 9 11 AM '61

FBI  
STATISTICAL SEC

June 23, 1961

Please refer to the FBI letter to the CSC dated December 14, 1953, concerning the employee, under CSC case serial number 8.54.3100, which transmitted the results of an appropriate inquiry conducted in 1953. The files of the FBI disclose that during May and June, 1961, an applicant-type investigation was conducted at the request of Mr. William J. Hartigan at the White House and the results were furnished to the Honorable P. Kenneth O'Donnell, Special Assistant to the President, the White House, Washington, D. C. You may desire to contact the appropriate official at the White House concerning the results of this investigation. It is noted that the employee occupies an "excepted" position as a consultant with the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare. The files of the FBI disclose no additional identifiable data concerning the employee and no further action is contemplated in the absence of a specific request. This is not a clearance or disapproval of this individual for Federal employment. This information should not be disseminated to unauthorized persons or agencies.

140-1494 NOTE: SPI on Festinger discloses parents were IWO  
161-570 members. His father allegedly signed CPNP in 1939  
RET:sa *sa* and 1940. Employee was signer of letter urging  
reinstatement of a professor at the University of  
Michigan discharged to CP affiliation.. This letter was released  
by the Bureau of Academic Freedom of the National Council of the  
Arts, Sciences and Professions.

*g. nwe*

NUMEROUS REFERENCE

4-22a  
5 1955

SEARCH SLIP

Subj:

Festinger, Leon

Supervisor

Room

R#

266

Date

MAY 20 1955

Searcher

Initial

R101

FILE NUMBER

MAY 20 1955

SERIAL

I 140-1494 (1)

SE 100-406415-5p3

NO 100-120277-6p4

or 121-23278-267x12

Encl. p 160

NO 100-344452-45p28

R337

9-R7  
SEARCH SLIP

E.S.S.

1221A-1B

Subj. Testinger, LeonR# 6580Date 6/14

Searcher

Number 503Prod. 107

FILE NUMBER

SERIAL

JUN 14 1961  
410 161 Ident 5/3/61

M/L		b3 (I) b7E
I	140-1494	(I)
I	161-570	FNM4(I)
I	140-1494-10	Sum 6/2/55
	Leon Mrs. (spouse)	
I	140-1494-8	(I)
		121

March 21, 1973

Refer to Standard Form 85, which was returned to the Civil Service Commission (CSC) on June 23, 1961, concerning Leon Festinger who appears to be identical with the employee's husband. Also on July 14, 1961, the CSC was furnished with the results of a summary memorandum concerning Leon Festinger.

FBI files contain no additional information concerning this individual. No investigation is contemplated under Executive Order 10450. This is not a clearance or disapproval for Federal employment. This should not be disseminated to unauthorized persons or agencies.

This reply is result of check of FBI investigative files. To check arrest records, request must be submitted to FBI Identification Division. (Fingerprints are necessary for positive check.)

NOTE: PI on employee <sup>husband</sup> in 1953 and SPI in 1961. Parents were IWO members. His father allegedly signed CPNP in 1939 and 1940. Employee was signer of letter urging reinstatement of a professor discharged due to CP affiliation. This letter was released by the Bureau of Academic Freedom of the National Council of the Arts, Sciences and Professions.

140-1494 (Leon Festinger)

161-570 (Leon Festinger)

LWS:ncm

*WV Com*  
*LH Morris*

MAR 22 2 11 PM '73